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# We Are ... Marshall, July 11, 2012

Office of Marshall University Communications

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The Newsletter for Marshall University

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## Doctor of Pharmacy program granted Precandidate accreditation status



The sign on the Robert W. Coon Education Building has been adjusted to add the School of Pharmacy, which will begin to offer classes next month.

Marshall University's Doctor of Pharmacy program has been granted Precandidate accreditation status by the Accreditation Council For Pharmacy Education (ACPE) Board of Directors.

The Precandidate status is a major step toward Marshall receiving full accreditation. This status authorizes the School of Pharmacy to enroll its inaugural class, which will begin this fall. The first class is expected to total up to 80 students.

[Read more.](#)

## Marshall kicks off Connections program for employees



Michelle Douglas, director of human resource

Marshall faculty and staff took part in a kickoff event Monday, July 9, for the Connections (TM) Quality Service Program. All employees will be scheduled for the program, which will start next week and continue throughout the fall semester.

Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp said Connections is designed to help provide better service to students.

[Read more.](#)

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services, provides information at the kickoff for the Connections (TM) program.

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Katherine Hetzer, Academic Advisor for the College of Business, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for May, according to Michelle Brown Douglas, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

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Marshall workers clean up the damage on the Huntington campus from the June 29 storm.

Marshall housed approximately 275 out-of-state utility workers brought in by Appalachian Power to help the company restore power following the June 29 record-breaking storm that damaged electrical infrastructure across much of the Mid-Atlantic.

The workers stayed in three of the four Marshall Commons residence halls on the Huntington campus beginning last weekend, said Dr. Karen Kirtley, senior vice president for administration.

[Read more.](#)

## MU Researchers study the effects of metabolic syndrome on skeletal muscle adaptation



Collaboration between two Marshall University associate professors resulted in findings that were published in *Science & Sports*, a publication of the French Society of Sports Medicine. The research was about the effects of metabolic syndrome on skeletal muscle adaptation.

Dr. Eric Arnold (above), from the School of Physical Therapy, and Dr. Eric Blough (below), from the Department of Pharmaceutical Science and Research in the School of Pharmacy, worked together on the project.

[Read more.](#)



## Coming Events

### **Classified Staff Council to accept nominations for September election**

The Classified Staff Council will hold an election in September to fill five vacancies. Nomination forms will be distributed this week.

[Read more.](#)

### **Brain Aneurysm Awareness walk to honor daughter of Marshall staff member**

A 2nd annual brain aneurysm awareness walk in honor of LaToya "Sissy" Holmes, daughter of Marshall University campus service worker Larry Smith and his wife, Linda, will take place Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Huntington High School track.

[Read more.](#)

### **Ellison, Kaplan to receive Blackboard Catalyst Award**

Two Marshall University staff members have been named winners of a Blackboard Catalyst Award in the category of Exemplary Course Program.

Dr. Lori Ellison, assistant professor of counseling in the Graduate School of Education and Professional Development and Paula Kaplan, instructional designer in

Instructional Technology/Online Learning and Libraries, will receive the award, which honors members of the community who design and develop innovative courses that represent the best in technology and learning.

[Read more.](#)

### **Profile: Cathy Cover**

- a series on interesting Marshall University people



The age-old adage, "if at first you don't succeed, just keep trying," could be Cathy Cover's mantra. After all, it was her persistence in the face of some daunting challenges that paid off and led her to a circulation position in Marshall's Morrow library more than 20 years ago.

[Read more.](#)

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Aug. 1, 2012. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by July 30.



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The Precandidate status is a major step toward Marshall receiving full accreditation. This status authorizes the School of Pharmacy to enroll its inaugural class, which will begin this fall. The first class is expected to total up to 80 students.

To reach its decision, the ACPE board reviewed the report of an evaluation team, documenting the findings from a comprehensive on-site evaluation.

"This achievement is a momentous one, one that is on the level approaching that of the founding of the School of Medicine," Kopp said. "It should be a source of great pride for all who care about Marshall and the future of those we serve."

The Precandidate accreditation term granted for the Doctor of Pharmacy program extends until June 30, 2013. A comprehensive on-site evaluation for consideration of advancing the Doctor of Pharmacy program from Precandidate to Candidate accreditation status will be scheduled during the academic year 2012-2013. The accreditation process consists of three steps culminating with graduation of the first class and adherence to all ACPE accreditation standards.

"The faculty and staff of the Marshall University School of Pharmacy have been working diligently to develop an outstanding curriculum and educational program," said Kevin Yingling, R.Ph., M.D., inaugural dean of the School of Pharmacy. "We are excited to begin educating this fine next generation of talented pharmacists, here at Marshall University."

Kopp said that during conversations with ACPE representatives, they made it very clear that they are not accrediting new pharmacy schools with any regularity and only the ones that meet their stringent standards earn this status.

"We have met those standards and will continue to do so," Kopp said.

The School of Pharmacy is located at the Robert W. Coon Education Building on the grounds of the Huntington VA Medical Center in Spring Valley. An ongoing \$9.3 million renovation project on the building will result in a 76,000 square-foot learning, research and pharmacy practice facility. Work is on schedule for the building to open in time for the start of the fall semester.

The Marshall University Board of Governors voted unanimously in December 2009 to approve the awarding of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. It is estimated that nearly 40 new high-paying faculty and staff positions will be created at the school within the first four years, and the school is expected to generate more than \$150 million in regional economic impact.

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredits Doctor of Pharmacy programs offered by Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy in the United States and selected non-US sites.

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## Marshall kicks off Connections program for employees



Marshall faculty and staff took part in a kickoff event Monday, July 9, for the Connections (TM) Quality Service Program. All employees will be scheduled for the program, which will start next week and continue throughout the fall semester.

Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp said Connections is designed to help provide better service to students. "Marshall University is committed to providing excellent service to our students," Kopp said. "The quality of service that we provide is crucial to achieving our recruitment goals, and more importantly, retaining those students through graduation."



Employees will participate in small groups with trainers selected from the Marshall campuses and centers, said Michelle Brown Douglas, director of human resource services. The program consists of three two-hour sessions. Douglas said that some employees already have received their training schedules, while others will be notified in the near future.

Connections is produced by Noel-Levitz, Inc. and is specifically designed for higher education institutions. The basis of the program is to emphasize the importance of a caring attitude on the part of faculty and staff and how that reflects positive outcomes with regard to student recruitment and retention.



Used by more than 1,400 colleges and universities, Connections teaches campus personnel how to be aware of students' needs and make a positive connection with them. Program topics include dealing with students in difficult situations, building a comfortable environment for students and co-workers, and more.

"This program is designed to help us all provide better service to our students, regardless of our role on campus, and I believe it will add a great deal of value to our existing high level of service," Kopp said.

The Connections training program may serve as a refresher course for some employees as the same program was first implemented in the 1990s at the Marshall campus.

For further information, please contact Douglas by e-mail at [douglasbm@marshall.edu](mailto:douglasbm@marshall.edu) or by phone at 304-696-3983.

Photos: President Kopp (above) and Michelle Douglas (middle) provide information at the kickoff for the Connections Quality Service Program July 9. Among those present at the kickoff were Dr. Tammy Johnson (left), executive director of admissions; Sherril Stepp, director of University College; and Andy Hermansdorfer, director of the office of student activities and Greek affairs.

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## Katherine Hetzer named Employee of the Month



Katherine Hetzer, Academic Advisor for the College of Business, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for May, according to Michelle Brown Douglas, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

A MU employee for 18 years, she was nominated by Dr. Chong Kim and Lisa Williamson.

In their nomination, they wrote: "Katherine is responsible for the academic advising of approximately 500 students. She is caring and concerned about her students and wants to see them succeed. She receives many compliments from students about the advising she provides. Katherine is also responsible for managing the college's Peer Mentor program, which she created. She is a leader and a team player and the College of Business is very lucky to have her."

Hetzer was presented with a plaque and a check for \$100 by President Stephen J. Kopp.

Photo: Katherine Hetzer (right) receives her Employee of the Month plaque from President Kopp.

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## Huntington campus hosts utility workers



Marshall housed approximately 275 out-of-state utility workers brought in by Appalachian Power to help the company restore power following the June 29 record-breaking storm that damaged electrical infrastructure across much of the Mid-Atlantic.

The workers stayed in three of the four Marshall Commons residence halls on the Huntington campus beginning last weekend, said Dr. Karen Kirtley, senior vice president for administration.

Kirtley said Appalachian Power contacted Marshall for availability when the large number of workers brought in for the recovery created a lodging need well beyond the capacity available at area hotels and motels. Marshall's Huntington campus has had power since Saturday, June 30, although the university did suffer about \$95,000 in damage and its South Charleston campus and Mid-Ohio Valley Center were closed the following Monday due to power outages.

"Our Huntington campus has been fortunate to have power... so President Kopp offered our facilities and any assistance we can give to the state and local emergency services," Kirtley said. She added that the campus was on a standby to house local elderly residents; however, Appalachian Power quickly restored power to the high-rise housing facilities and residence halls have not been needed for that purpose.

"We are glad to be available for Appalachian Power and its workers. I know they are working long days in this remarkable heat to get all of us back up, so we will do what we can to help." Kirtley said at the time.

*Photo: Marshall workers clean up the damage on the Huntington campus from the June 29 storm.*

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## Researchers at MU School of Pharmacy and School of Physical Therapy study the effects of metabolic syndrome on skeletal muscle adaptation

Collaboration between two Marshall University associate professors resulted in findings that were published in *Science & Sports*, a publication of the French Society of Sports Medicine. The research was about the effects of metabolic syndrome on skeletal muscle adaptation.



Dr. Eric Arnold, from the School of Physical Therapy, and Dr. Eric Blough, from the Department of Pharmaceutical Science and Research in the School of Pharmacy, worked together on the project.

Metabolic syndrome, also known as syndrome X or insulin resistance syndrome, is one of the fastest growing health problems in the United States with more than one of every three adults suffering from the disorder, according to Arnold and Blough.

"It's important to assemble a team of experts from various health professions and scientific disciplines, to address the complexity of type 2 diabetes," Arnold said. "That's what it is all about, working together to research and discover an optimal therapeutic strategy for this chronic disease. Collaboration is important."



Marshall's researchers have been using the obese Zucker rat (Leprfa) which models many of the characteristic features of metabolic syndrome seen in humans to examine how the disorder may affect the ability of their skeletal muscles to adapt to an exercise stimulus.

"Because exercise is almost always prescribed as a treatment modality for these patients, we need to understand how skeletal muscles of someone with metabolic syndrome may respond to exercise if we ever want to optimize the therapeutic treatment of this disease," Arnold said.

Their research, titled "Insulin resistance does not inhibit the ability of the mechanical overload to induce hypertrophy in the Obese Zucker Rat (Leprfa) plantaris muscle," was published in April.

Photos: Dr. Eric Arnold (above) and Dr. Eric Blough (below) collaborated on research that was published in *Science & Sports*.

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## Classified Staff Council to accept nominations for September election

The Classified Staff Council will hold an election in September to fill vacancies for the following:

- One vacancy in EEO 10 - Executive, Administrative & Managerial;
- One vacancy in EEO 40 - Technical and Paraprofessional;
- One vacancy in EEO 50 - Clerical;
- One vacancy for the representative to the Advisory Council for Classified Employees (ACCE); and
- One vacancy for the Classified Staff representative to the Marshall University Institutional Board of Governors.

The staff members selected by this election will finish the remainder of the current term which will end June 30, 2013.

Nomination forms will be distributed by mail on Wednesday, July 11. Nomination forms are due in the Staff Council Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 2. No nominations will be accepted after that date.

All employees of EEO Groups 10, 40 and 50 are permitted to nominate one eligible person from their respective EEO Groups for these positions, including themselves. All classified staff members are permitted to nominate one eligible member from the classified staff for the position of ACCE representative and one member from the classified staff for the position of Board of Governors representative, including themselves. The same person may be nominated for both positions. Consult the Classified Employees By-Laws, Bylaw VI, Section 4 for questions on eligibility:

[www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/](http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/)

Electronic voting will be available from Friday, Sept. 7 from 6 a.m. through Monday, Sept. 10 at midnight. All voting will be electronic. There will be no paper ballot voting. Detailed instructions on electronic voting can be found on the Staff Council website: [www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/](http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/)

If there are any questions regarding the election contact Joe Wortham, Election Committee Chair by e-mail at [wortham@marshall.edu](mailto:wortham@marshall.edu) or by phone at ext. 6-5402; or Katie Counts in the Staff Council Office by e-mail at [easter@marshall.edu](mailto:easter@marshall.edu) or by phone at ext. 6-2222.

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## Brain Aneurysm Awareness walk to honor daughter of Marshall staff member

A 2nd annual brain aneurysm awareness walk in honor of LaToyia "Sissy" Holmes, daughter of Marshall University campus service worker Larry Smith and his wife, Linda, will take place Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Huntington High School track.

Registration fee is \$25 and will benefit the Brain Aneurysm Foundation as well as help with expenses for the daily care of Holmes, who is disabled as a result of an aneurysm.

Sponsorships are also available for the event.

Click for further information on the [event](#) and [sponsorships](#).

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Ellison and Kaplan are being honored along with 37 other Exemplary Course Program winners during BbWorld, Blackboard's annual user conference, which is taking place this week in New Orleans.

Blackboard is a global leader in enterprise technology and innovation solutions that strives to improve the experience of millions of students and learners around the world. Blackboard's solutions allow thousands of higher education and K-12, professional, corporate and government organizations to extend teaching and learning online.

Part of the annual Blackboard Catalyst Awards program since 2000, the Blackboard Exemplary Course Program award highlights technologically rich, well-designed and instructionally sound courses that showcase best practices for those who use them. More than 151 entries were evaluated in a rigorous peer-review process by more than 250 faculty and instructional designers. Submissions were judged on course design, interaction, collaboration, assessment and learner support.

"Designing and teaching an online course titled 'Death and Grief Counseling' presents unique challenges," said Kaplan, "but Lori and I were able to translate her personal, engaging style of teaching into a highly interactive and effective online course, in part by incorporating some of the new collaboration tools available in Blackboard Learn 9.1, such as wikis. Working with Lori was a great pleasure, and I am truly honored to be recognized with her for this award."

Ellison added, "I'm so proud and happy the work Paula and I did has been recognized in this way. I have learned a lot about effective online teaching in my time here at Marshall and I'm grateful for the endorsement of our work. I am most grateful to Paula for her help and my students who made this course a truly special learning experience for all."

"We applaud the Blackboard Catalyst Award winners and their accomplishments," said Ray Henderson, Chief Technology Officer and President of Academics for Blackboard. "Their work represents some of the most innovative thinking in education today, and offers great models for how technology can help shape an improved education experience. We congratulate the award winners for their leadership, creativity and passion that is clearly evident in their work."

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## Profile: Cathy Cover



The age-old adage, "If at first you don't succeed, just keep trying," could be Cathy Cover's mantra. After all, it was her persistence in the face of some daunting challenges that paid off and led her to a circulation position in Marshall's Morrow Library more than 20 years ago.

Back then she was working part time at the Mason County Library branch in Hannan, but needed a full-time job. An ad for an opening in the Morrow Library caught her eye and she applied, unaware that there was a hiring freeze on at the time. The position she applied for went to someone else, but faith and hope kept her going and sure enough, a short time later she got the call to come to Marshall for another position in circulation which had become available despite the hiring freeze that was still in effect. Today she's still with the library, located now in Drinko, in customer services where she helps at the circulation desk two hours a day and the interlibrary loan services the rest of the time.

As part of the Interlibrary loan program, "we lend and borrow from all over," Cover says, and items can include books, journal articles, microfilm and videos. "We get and send articles all over the world but we try to keep loans in the continental United States as much as possible because of the cost." Libraries can't afford to own every book and journal so they're traded among institutions, she explains. "Interlibrary loan is particularly important to make materials available for accreditation purposes. The cost is prohibitive to own everything that is required."

Technology has made library work faster and more efficient and in most cases, cheaper, she says ... no more cumbersome typed records, forms done in triplicate or hard-to-decipher handwritten forms, she's happy to say. She can tick off a plethora of programs available now that speed and refine requests. There's EZBorrow, a program that exchanges books only; RAPID (for journal articles), which as its name indicates aims for a fast-turnaround time, usually 24 hours; and ILLiad, a program written by interlibrary loan librarians who well knew what is needed. These programs are not only faster and more efficient, they're also more accurate, Cover says. And perhaps best of all, they're user friendly.

Using IDS Express (Information Delivery Services), "students can go to the MU Library website and create their own account, put in their information and put everything online. These programs are very powerful; we can often get articles back within hours," she says.

Her work has been rewarding since she left the Mason County home in which she had lived for 20 years, but the Mason County years were fulfilling as well and there were some triumphs. She's justifiably proud that both her children, daughter Michelle and son Michael Alford, now a mechanical engineer for an oil refinery in the state of Washington, were both valedictorians of their graduating classes at Hannan High School. Michelle went on to receive her Regents BA degree from Marshall and now also works in the Drinko Library.

Remarried in 2004 to Sam Cover, whom she characterizes as a multi-skilled Jack of all trades -- "He can do anything!", she says proudly. As a result she's found herself deep into any number of renovation projects. But she's no amateur either, having pitched in to help build her Mason County home from the ground up. She and Sam installed new windows themselves last year, they built and screened in a porch and right now they're busy remodeling their kitchen, installing some old but new-to-them cabinets a friend gave them. "We're recyclers, we have a house built back in the 1940s which needs a lot of work so we take things where we can find them and fit them into the house. One time Sam traded a hand-made swing for a picture window. Many times a little paint will make things match. But the most important thing is we work well together and I've always wanted to be able to do that."

## We Are...Marshall Newsletter

The Office of University Communications publishes the e-newsletter, "We Are...Marshall" for the university community.

To suggest a story idea, please contact the editor, [Pat Dickson](#), on the South Charleston campus. The current issue contains the deadline date for the next issue.

To read the newsletter online for issues prior to May 6, 2010, you need the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

## Important Links

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